

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 W
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R 181351 Z MAY 73
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8476
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
USINT CAIRO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T TEL AVIV 3917

EXDIS

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNSC, XF

SUBJECT: SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING ON MID EAST

1. CHARGE MET MORNING MAY 18 WITH MORDECHAI GAZIT, DIRGEN PRIMIN' S OFFICE, AND SUBJECT CAME UP OF UNSC DEBATE ON MIDDLE EAST.
 2. GAZIT SAID GOI WOULD NOT COOPERATE WITH ANY NEW COMMITTEE OR UN MACHINERY SET UP AS RESULT OF SC DEBATE TO DEAL WITH MID EAST. IN HIS OPINION, UN WAS ANTI- ISRAELI BODY NOW AND HAD NO CONTRIBUTION TO MAKE TOWARDS SETTLEMENT IN MID EAST, WHEHTER BY COMMITTEE, JARRING OR IN ANY OTHER WAY. GAZIT SAID THIS DETERMINATION NOT TO COOPERATE WITH ANY NEW MACHINERY HAD NOT YET BEEN FORMALIZED IN ANY GOVT DECISION BUT HE HAD NO DOUBT IT WOULD BE IF SC TRIED TO SET UP SUCH MACHINER6. RE JARRING, GAZIT SAID HE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO DO ANYTHING MORE UNLESS HE COMPLETELY DISASSOCIATED HIMSELF FROM HOS OWN PREVIOUS ACTIONS, SOMETHING NOT TO BE EXPECTED.
 3. GAZIT COULD SEE NO WAY IN WHICH SC DEBATE COULD CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS OPENING OF NEGOTIATIONS. HE THOUGHT ISRAELI POLICY ON SC WAS DAMAGE- LIMITING OPERATION AND WOULD ADMIT NO POSITIVE ASPECTS. PROBLEM IN DEBATE, HE SAID, WOULD
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BE TO DEAL WITH EGYPTIAN WISHES AND FRUSTRATIONS IN SOME WAY THAT MIGHT EASE GOE' S PROBLEMS. HE EXPRESSED BELIEF WORD WAS GOING AROUND THAT EGYPTIANS LOOKING FOR POSITIVE OUTCOME THIS TIME RATHER THAN CONDEMNATORY RESOLUTION, BUT HE THOUGHT THIS WAS STRICTLY BLUFF. HE DID NOT GO INTO DETAILS OF HOW GOI WANTED TO HANDLE ITSELF IN DEBATE, BUT INDICATED CONVERSATIONS BEING HELD IN WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK ON THESE ASPECTS.

4. CHARGE QUERIED GAZIT ABOUT GOI ESTIMATE OF POSSIBILITY EGYPT WOULD RESUME FIGHTING. GAZIT REPEATED INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATES WE HAVE PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED TO EFFECT THAT THERE NO INDICATIONS OF PREPARATIONS FOR MILITARY ACTION, RESORT TO FIGHTING BY EGYPT IS UNLIKELY BUT IT CANNOT BE RULED OUT THAT SADAT MIGHT AT ANY TIME CARRY OUT SMALL SCALE ATTACK. HE INSISTED THIS WAS AN OBJECTIVE AN ESTIMATE AS ISRAELI INTELLIGENCE PROFESSIONALS COULD MAKE IT, NOT COLORED BY ANY POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS AIMED AT PERUSADING USG OR OTHERS NOT TO TAKE EGYPTIAN THREATS SERIOUSLY.

5. COMMENT: WHILE GAZIT WAS CATEGORICAL IN HIS STATEMENTS THAT ISRAEL WOULD NOT COOPERATE WITH ANY NEW UN MACHINERY AND COULD SEE NO FURTHER USEFULNESS UNDER REALISTIC CIRCUMSTANCES TO JARRING, EMB BELIEVES THIS APPROACH DICTATED AT LEAST TO SOME EXTENT BY TEACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS AND DOES NOT NECESSARILY MEAN THAT GOI WOULD NOT REASSESS SITUATION AND MAKE DECISION IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS INTERESTS AS THEY THEN WOULD APPEAR IF UNSC SHOULD IN FACT SET UP NEW MECHANISM OR REVITALIZE JARRING.

ZURHELLEN

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS
*** Current Classification *** SECRET

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: thigpegh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973TELAV03917
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730548/aaaajlfd.tel
Line Count: 91
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: thigpegh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05-Oct-2001 by elyme>; APPROVED <26-Nov-2001 by thigpegh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 980220
Subject: SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING ON MID EAST
TAGS: PFOR, XF, UNSC
To: AMMAN
BEIRUT
CAIRO
SECSTATE WASHDC
SS
USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005